

# ME&A

Montana Engineering and Administration, P.C.

Providing Water and Wastewater Engineering  
Services for Municipalities Across Montana

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**RECEIVED**

February 15, 2005

FEB 18 2005

Montana Environmental Quality Council  
P.O. Box 201704  
Helena, MT 59620-1704

LEGISLATIVE ENVIRONMENTAL  
POLICY OFFICE

*RE: Request for Input for an Environmental Assessment for the Town of Melstone Water System  
Improvements; Additional Areas*

Dear Reviewer:

The Town of Melstone has been working towards a Water System Improvements Project. The last environmental clearance that was completed included connecting the Town's test well to the existing water system through an approximately 5 mile pipeline from the well to the treatment plant. The pipeline is expected to be constructed this spring/summer.

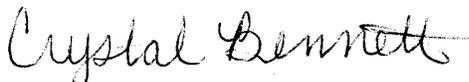
The original plan for the new pipeline was to supplement the surface water source (Musselshell River). However, due to drought conditions, treatment plant problems, and uncertainty in future environmental regulations, among other considerations, the Town has determined that it would be best to eliminate the surface water source and pursue a new groundwater source, which was the preferred alternative in the Preliminary Engineering Report (PER).

The proposed new water source would consist of drilling several new wells and connecting the new wells to the existing system. In addition to drilling new wells, the Town may also be able to use the Jorgenson Well. Possible locations for the new wells include areas on BLM land, state land, and private land. In addition to the new wells, the Town is proposing to replace the pipeline that runs from the treatment plant to the Town as there have been several breaks within the last few years.

Enclosed please find a map highlighting the locations of the proposed changes. These changes are located primarily in Sections 16, 20, and 21 of T9N, R31E and Section 31 of T10N, R31E. The new pipelines are located in previously disturbed construction areas, either along the existing system or along an existing road.

Please review the proposed improvements and let us know if you have any environmental concerns resulting from the proposed project. If we do not receive any comments within 30 days of the date of this letter, we will assume that you have no comments. Thank you for your time.

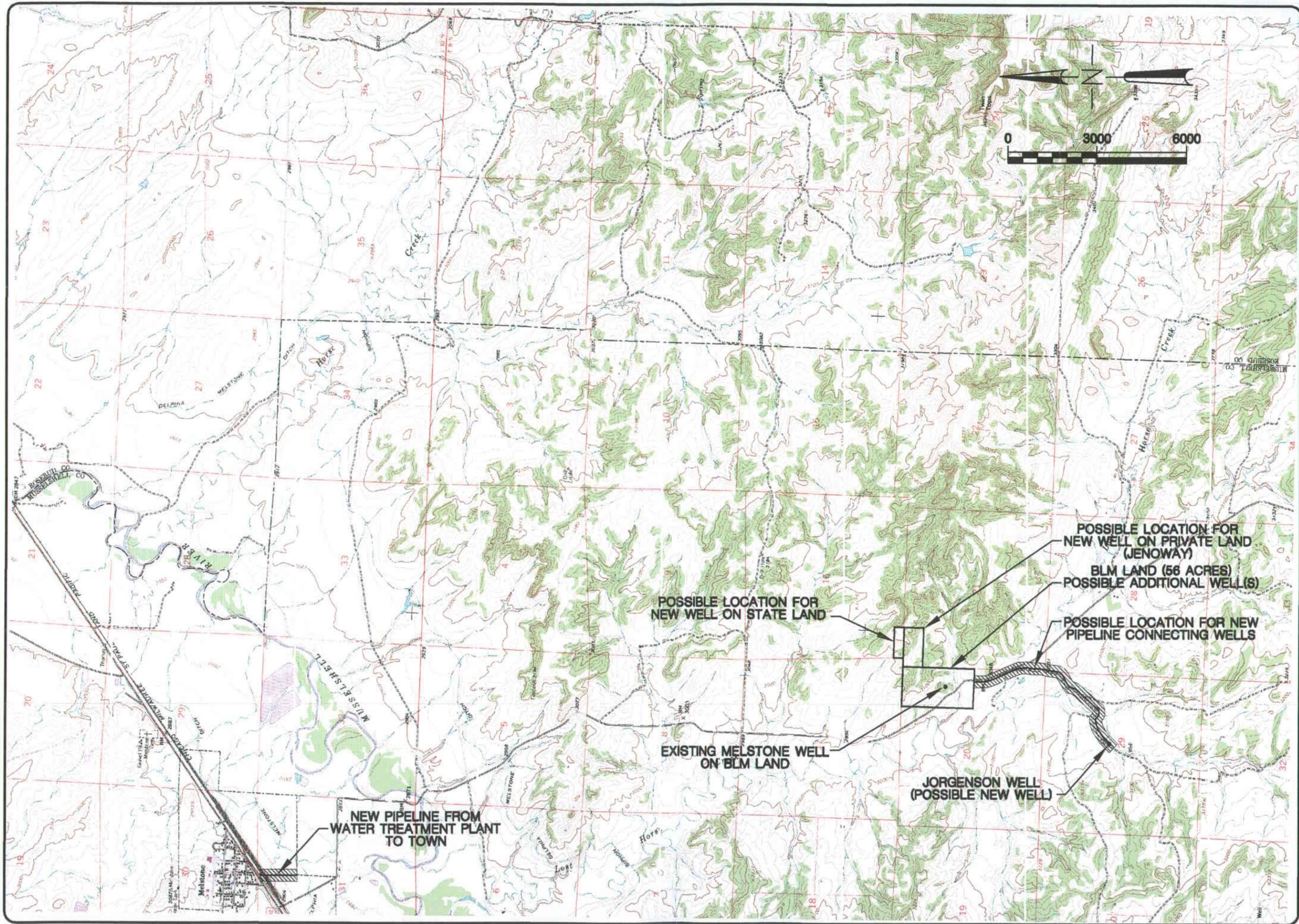
Sincerely,



Crystal Bennett, EI

Enclosures: Map of Project Area





Drawn: LMW 2-4-05 Checked: PM

No.	Revision	By	Date

WARNING  
 IF THIS BAR DOES NOT MEASURE 1/2" NOT TO SCALE

**TOWN OF MELSTONE, MONTANA**  
**PROJECT AREA**



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